AmeriCorps members bring local WI produce into WI schools.

Pictures taken by DATCP AmeriCorps members: Ruth Hilfiker and Kathleen Hein.

AMERICORPS FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

AmeriCorps Farm to School Goal

The AmeriCorps Farm to School program provides an innovative approach to decreasing childhood obesity by promoting healthy eating habits in students K-12 and increasing access to local foods in schools.

Program Elements:

- Identifies and addresses hurdles facing local food procurement in school districts including: distribution, processing, and pricing while building relationships and supporting WI farmers
- Provides nutrition education for students K-12 by developing and implementing curriculum, wellness plans, school gardens, in-class demonstrations and farm field trips
- Hosts 13 Farm to School sites with a minimum of one full time or two half time AmeriCorps members engaging their communities in program efforts

Grant Program is made possible by:

- Funding from Serve Wisconsin since 2008
 - Serve Wisconsin supports service in Wisconsin primarily by granting AmeriCorps funds through the <u>Corporation for National and Community Service</u> to organizations that involve citizens in service activities that meet human, educational, environmental, public safety, and homeland security needs.
- Program administration from the WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)
- Partnerships with:
 - o UW-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (UW-CIAS)
 - o Research, Education, Action and Policy on Food Group (REAP)
 - o WI Department of Health Services (DHS)
 - o WI Department of Public Instruction (DPI)
 - Wisconsin Rural Partners (WRP)

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